

LIBERAL BIG SPENDERS THREATEN SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, let me see if I have this right. As a result of balancing the Federal budget for the first time in a generation, the Republican Congress has created a record-breaking budget surplus. President Clinton, who opposed spending restraints every step of the way, now takes credit for that surplus. At the same time, and apparently with a straight face, the President calls for billions and billions of dollars in new spending programs, threatens to veto legislation because it does not spend enough, and calls for tax increases on the American people to pay for yet more Washington spending. Joined by his liberal allies in the Congress, he intends to raid the Social Security trust fund yet once again.

Mr. Speaker, we have been entrusted by the American people to protect their Social Security program. Let us not allow President Clinton and his big spending friends to betray that trust. Let us hold the line on runaway spending. Let us protect the taxpayers. Let us ensure the solvency of our Social Security system. Stop the raid, Mr. President. Stop the raid.

AT LEAST ONE ABUSIVE TAX SHELTER COULD HAVE BEEN CUT INSTEAD OF THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, of course the raid on Social Security is the one our Republican friends have already incurred through this year, but what I would like to focus on are the millions of Americans that are out there right now preparing our lunch at a fast food restaurant, caring for seniors at a nursing home or for our children at a child care center, a young police officer who is putting his or her life on the line, a young teacher trying to assure educational opportunity; all of these folks working at low-paid jobs, as they work, receive an earned income tax credit as an incentive to work, to contribute, to pay their taxes.

It is to this group of working American families that this Republican majority has turned at this very hour to finance their fiscal irresponsibility. They could have closed at least one abusive corporate tax shelter. They could have ended a tax loophole, but instead they turned to working Americans in what one executive at H&R Block says would "cause confusion and disrupt the personal lives of hard-working American families" by delaying their tax refund. This is wrong. This tactic must be rejected.

GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN: THE ALL- AMERICAN CITY

(Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, on a lighter topic, in my district last weekend we received formal recognition of what we from Green Bay have known for a long time, our area is one of the best places in America to live.

Thanks to the National Civic League and Allstate Insurance, who sponsored this wonderful program, Green Bay was named an All-American City. Our area does indeed represent the very best of grass-root citizen involvement, creative community effort, and collaborative problem solving the three key qualities embodied by this award.

I am proud to say that Green Bay is on the march, taking aggressive steps to meet its challenges in the most innovative ways we can. Those who live in Green Bay want to put the rest of the Nation on notice, there is another key quality of character we hold dear: The relentless pursuit of excellence. The All-American City award is not the end of a journey but merely another milepost in a longer journey to make sure that our area is the greatest place in the world to live, and we will not rest until we get there.

THE REPUBLICANS NEED TO GET THEIR HEADS OUT OF THE SAND

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Republicans launched a new ad campaign accusing the Democrats of dipping into the Social Security surplus.

In these ads, Republicans vowed to draw a line in the sand. It is time for the Republicans to get their heads out of the sand. Their own spending plan for next year takes \$18 billion out of the Social Security surplus. Instead of running attack ads, it is time we start working together to pass a budget that addresses the needs of the American people.

The American people, working families, seniors, and children, are waiting for this Congress to stand up and do something. The truth will set us free. The truth will liberate us all. It is time for us all to put our cards on the table. It is time for the Republicans to tell the truth. Speak the truth to the American people. That is what the American people deserve. That is what they need and that is what they want.

WHERE IS THE OUTRAGE WHEN A DEMOCRATIC MAYOR HONORS COMMUNIST RULE IN THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA?

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, 223 years ago, the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia, but just 5 days ago there was a different sort of revolt on the steps of Philadelphia's city hall. A crowd of citizens gathered there to protest a far more pernicious kind of tyranny than that which confronted the Founders themselves. It seems that the city's mayor, Ed Rendell, convened a, quote, celebration to honor and commemorate 50 years of Communist rule in the People's Republic of China; that, according to the Philadelphia Enquirer.

Now, Mayor Rendell is a Democrat; in fact, he is a prominent one. Do we think other Democrats denounced Rendell's celebration of Communist rule? Did they reprimand him for praising the very regime which today points 13 nuclear missiles at his country? Did they cry out about the communist destruction of human dignity and human rights? No.

Last week, Democrats made Rendell chairman of their party, head of the Democratic National Committee.

I am not making this up, Mr. Speaker.

What is next? Will Chairman Rendell print his party's platform in little red books?

REPUBLICANS CANNOT HAVE IT ALL

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, crafting a responsible budget is about choices. It is about priorities. We Democrats want to use the surplus to save Social Security and Medicare, pay down the debt, and educate our kids; but Republicans want to use the surplus to fund their risky \$800 billion tax giveaway.

Now we Democrats stand by our priorities because we know that they are the priorities of the American people, but Republicans cannot seem to figure out what they stand for. One minute they are for a huge tax cut for the wealthy. Then they claim their number one priority is saving Social Security. Then they are the party of education. Then it is paying down the debt. Republicans have yet to accept the responsibility of leadership because they cannot have it all.

Right now, their own Congressional Budget Office says their plan breaks the spending caps. It busts the budget. If we are going to save Social Security and Medicare and pay down our debt, then they cannot have an \$800 billion tax giveaway. Democrats know that. The President knows that, and the American people know that.

Apparently, with one day left in the fiscal year, Republicans have their heads buried in the sand and their priorities all mixed up.